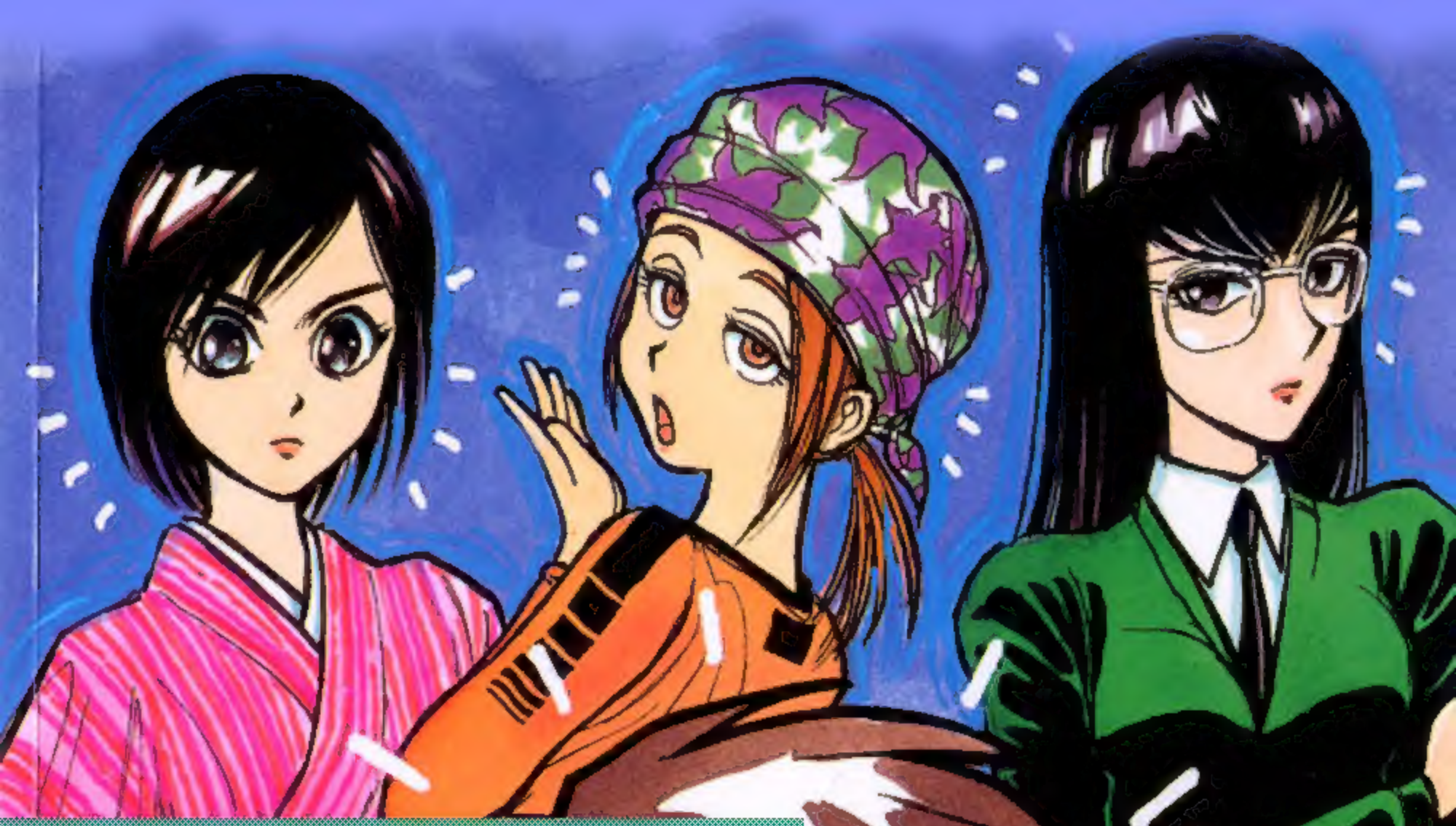

KARAKURI CIRCUS

Vol. 29

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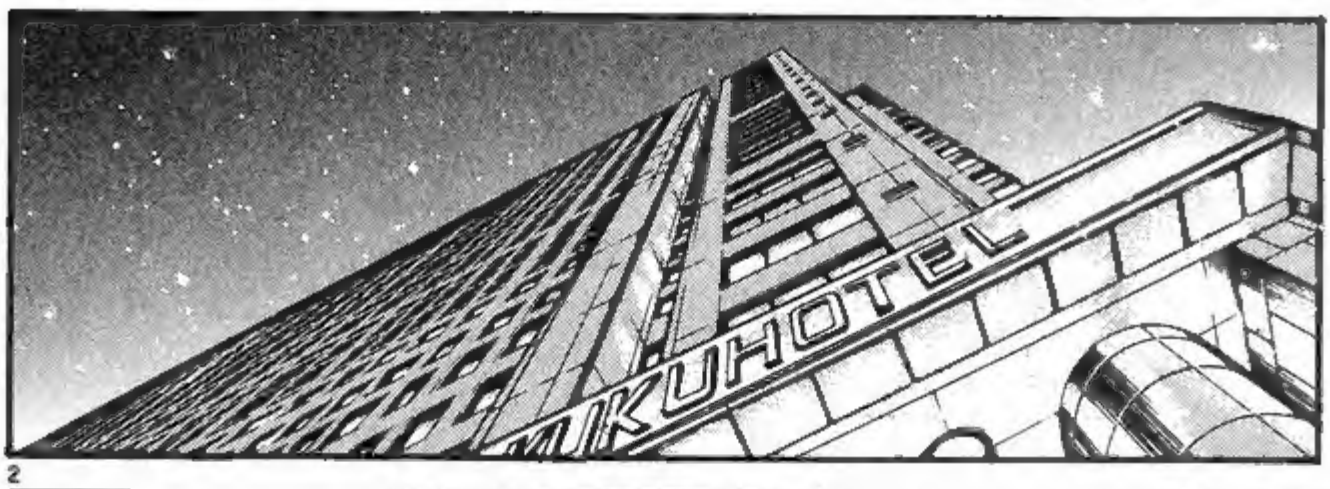
NAKAMACHI SCANLATION

INTERMISSION IV - Astonishment



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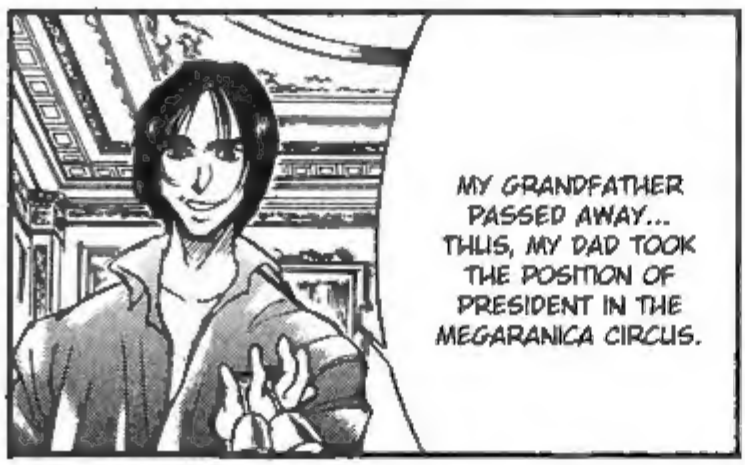
*TN: EXPENSIVE WINE.


MY GRANDFATHER PASSED AWAY... THUS, MY DAD TOOK THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT IN THE MEGARANICA CIRCUS.

THE MONSIEUR LOYAL... YOUR FATHER, AND YOUR GRANDFATHER, THE FOUNDER. HOW ARE THEY?

THAT'S NICE...
AFTER THAT, I'LL BE THE NEXT RING-MASTER..

ピク
YEAH... A 22-YEAR OLD RINGMAS-TER, THAT'S TOO YOUNG...
BUT I GOT IT!

BUT SINCE I ONLY AGE ONE YEAR EVERY FIVE YEARS...
Y-YES...

IT'S BEEN 6 YEARS, YOU WERE 17 AT THE TIME, HUH...

MEGARANICA
CIRCUS
AT THAT TIME, THE CIRQUE DU MEGARANICA WAS ALREADY A TOP-CLASS ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY...
I WAS THE GRANDCHILD OF THE FOUNDER AND THE SON OF THE CURRENT LEADER...

I REMEMBER IT ALL THE TIME. THE FIRST TIME WE MET, I WAS 16 YEARS OLD...

DAD WAS VERY HARSH.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU!? YOU'RE USING TOO MUCH OF YOUR BODY'S STRENGTH! YOU SHOULDN'T HOLD ON TO THE BARRIER!

RICHARD! WHAT ARE YOU DOING! ONE MORE TIME!

AFTER ALL, I WAS THE RINGMASTER'S SON...
THIS ISN'T HOW MEGARANICA'S SON SHOULD BE!

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN PRACTISING ON THE TRAPEZE?! RICHARD, YOU'RE A COWARD!

YOU WERE A MEGARANICA CIRCUS MEMBER.
BACK IN THEN!...

BUT... JUGGLING, STEEL-CORD... CONTORTIONS, AND EVEN CHINESE ACROBATICS... YOU ADAPTED TO ANY TECHNIQUE.
IF YOU STAYED AWAY FROM OTHERS, YOU'D HAVE A HARD TIME.

.....

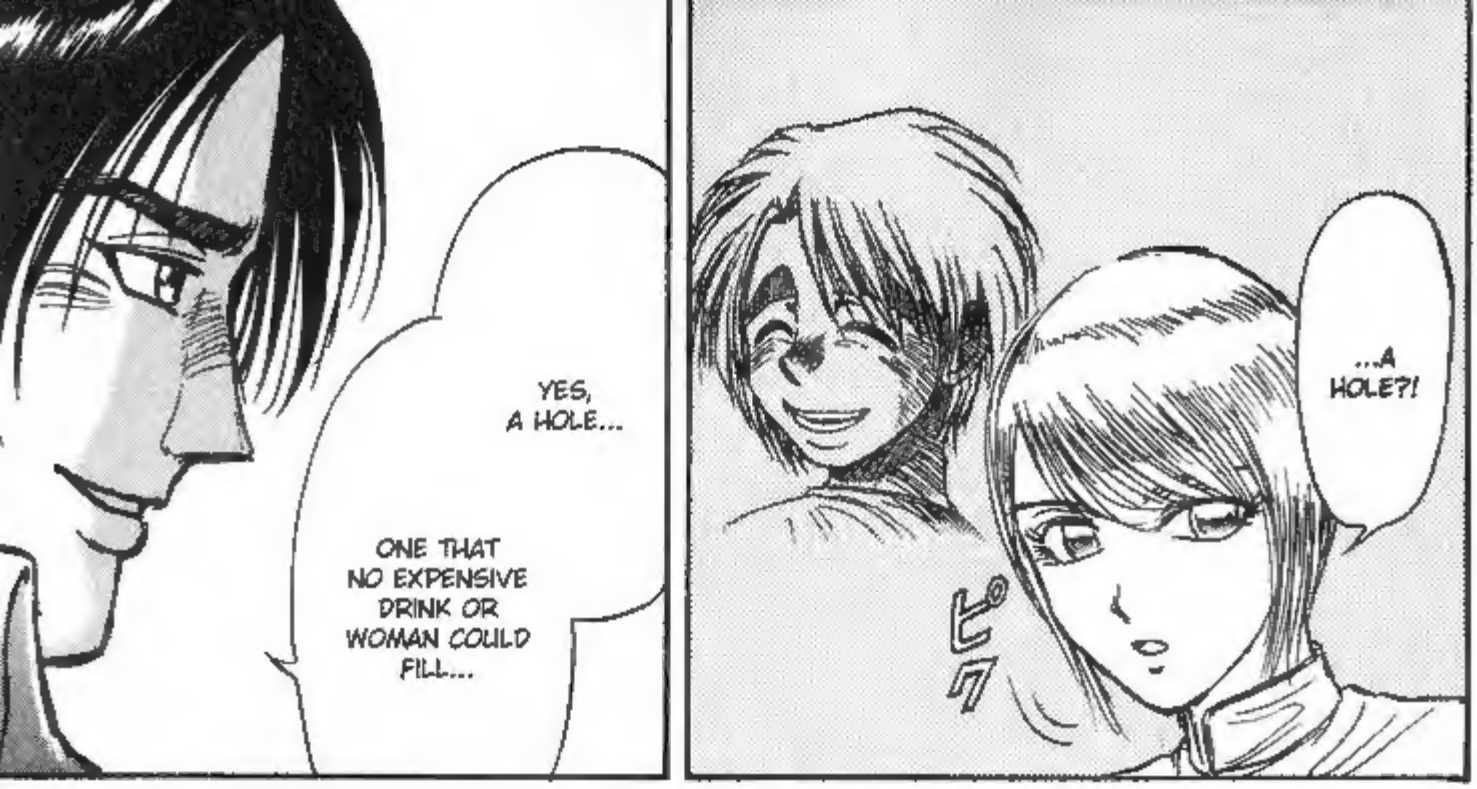
RICHARD WILL BE PRACTISING THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT!
ENOUGH! GATHER UP, EVERYBODY!

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT...

TO BE REPRIMANDED BY HIS OLD MAN AND OTHER GROUP MEMBERS ...
YOU'RE LAUGHING IN YOUR MIND, AREN'T YOU? FOR THE SON OF THIS GREAT CIRCUS...
NOTHING...
YOU THINK YOU CAN READ MY MIND?
HOW I COMPLETELY SUCK AT EVERYTHING!!
YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, SO YOU MUST THINK IT'S FUNNY
I DON'T THINK PEOPLE WHO WORK HARD ARE LAME.
AND THOSE WHO DO THIS NATURALLY CAN'T BE THAT LAME, RIGHT?.
NO MATTER HOW YOU'RE BORN, YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO IMPROVE YOUR ABILITIES BY YOURSELF. THAT'S NATURAL.

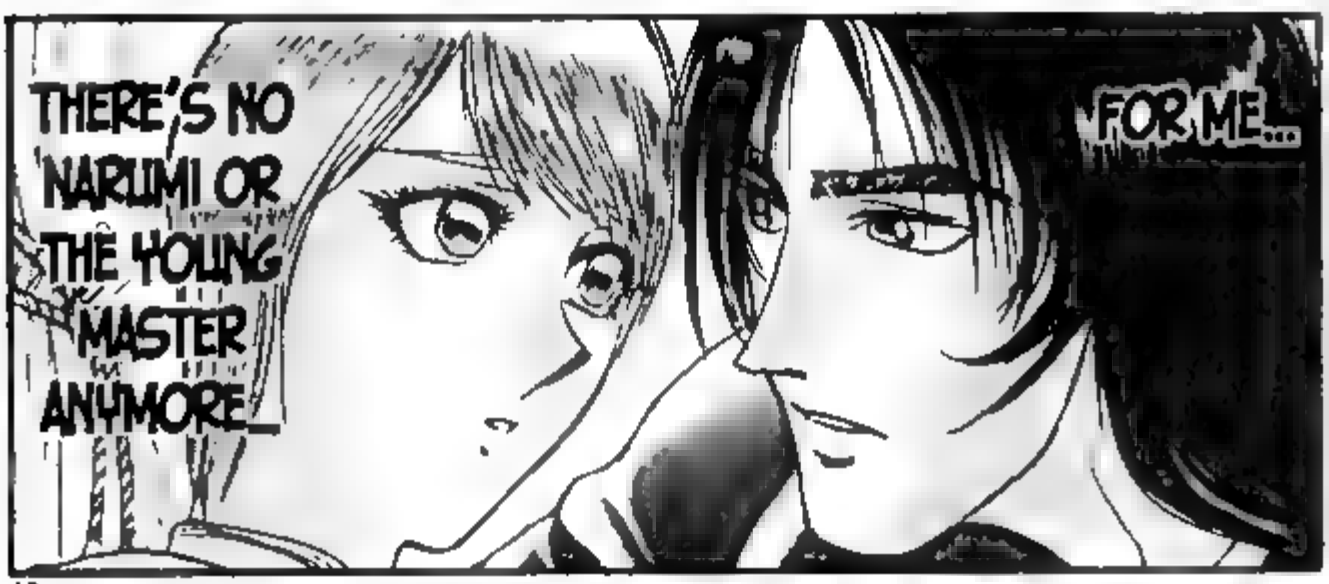
SHI-ROGANE...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I was surprised.
ALL THE OTHERS ALWAYS TURNED THEIR BACKS TO ME.
UNTIL NOW, NO ONE ELSE SAID SUCH THINGS TO ME.
I GOT MOTIVATED.
AND WENT BACK TO THE TRAPEZE.
SINCE THEN, YOUR PRESENCE WAS VERY SPECIAL FOR ME.
FOR ME...
I ALWAYS KEPT TRYING TO WOO YOU...

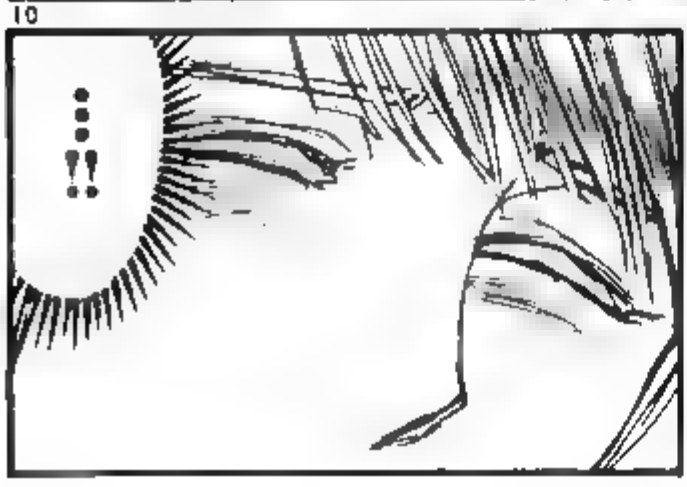
RICHARD, I CAN EASILY BECOME ANYTHING YOU WANT..
...BUT WHAT YOU WANT IS MY HEART, RIGHT?
BUT YOU ALWAYS TRIED TO AVOID THE TOPIC...
MEGARAN
MY MECHA-NICAL HEART...
WON'T ACCEPT YOU...
I HAD THINGS TO DO.
AND THEN YOU LEFT THE CIRCUS.
I FELT LONELY...
WITH YOU GONE, IT FELT LIKE ...
THERE WAS A HOLE IN MY CHEST..


YES,
A HOLE...
ONE THAT
NO EXPENSIVE
DRINK OR
WOMAN COULD
FILL...
ピク
...A
HOLE?!

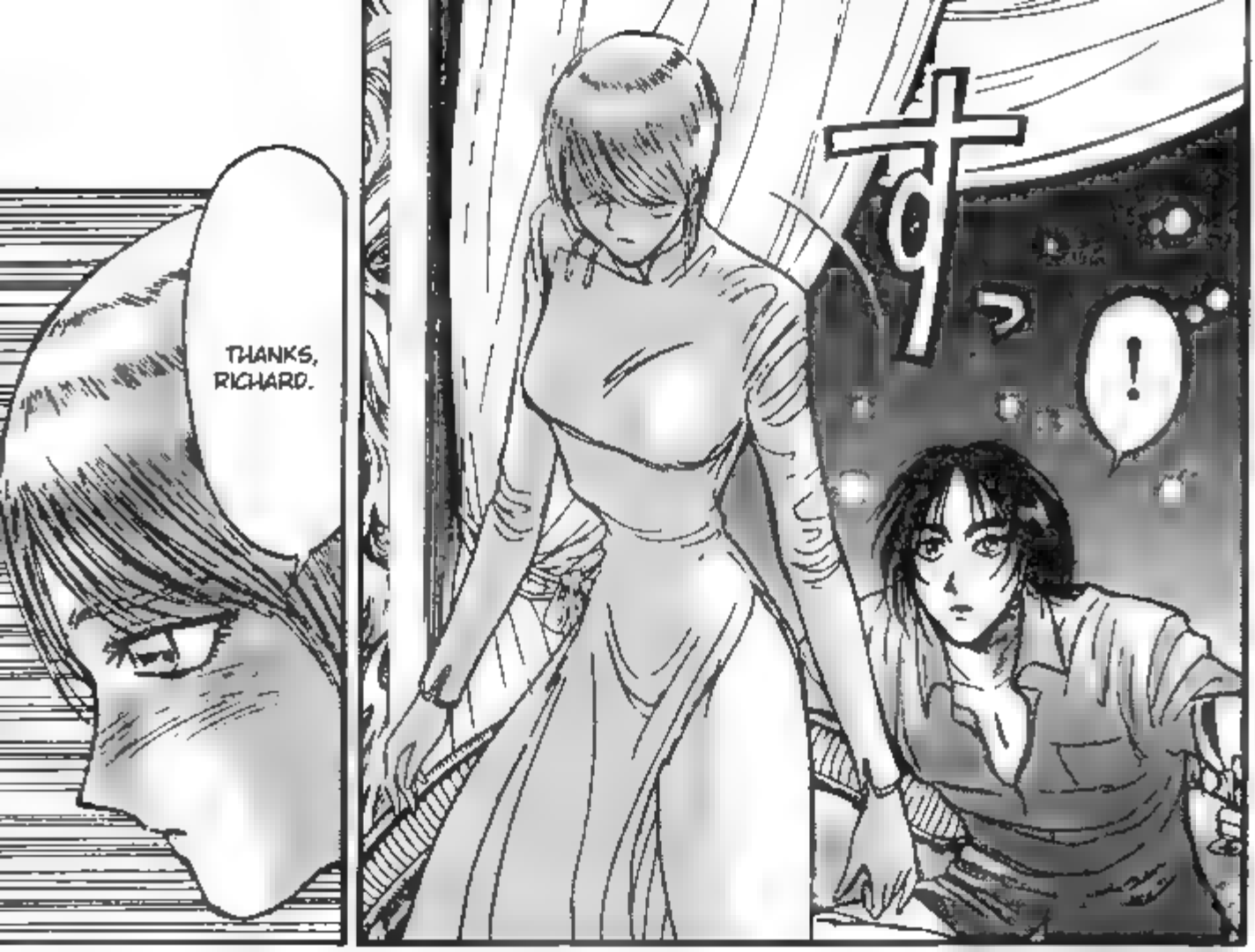
BUT THAT'S
THE PAST.
NOW WE MET
EACH OTHER
ONCE AGAIN...
I SEE...

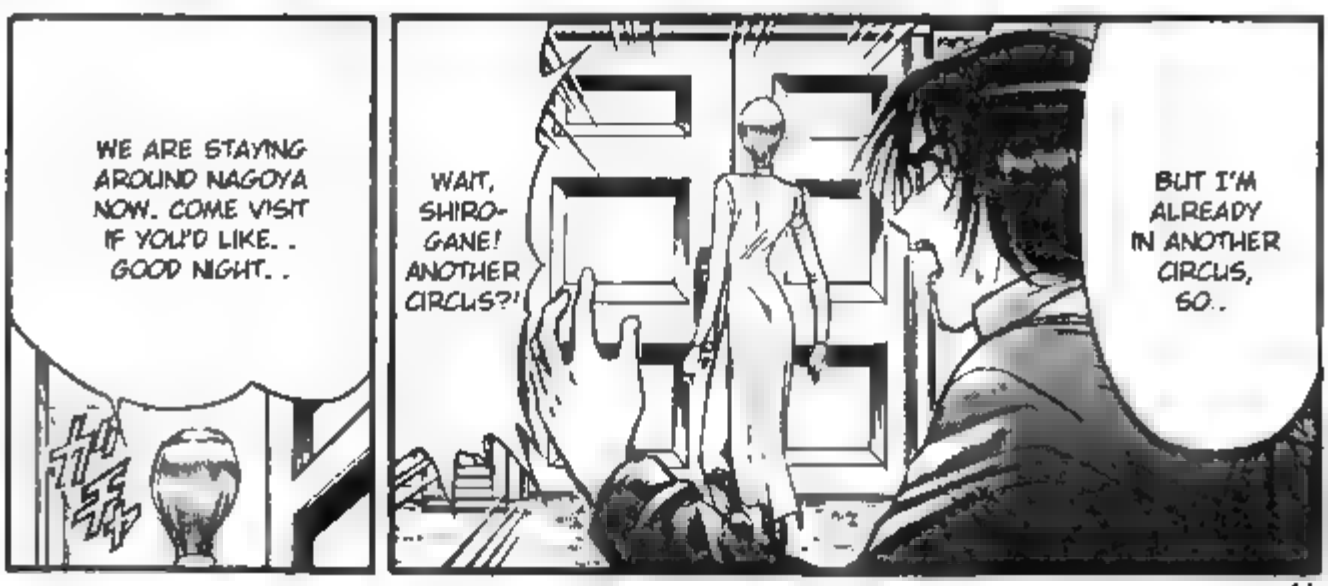
I NEED
YOU...
SHIROGANE,
COME WITH ME
TO MEGARANICA
CIRCUS...


THERE'S NO NARUMI OR THE YOUNG MASTER ANYMORE_
FOR ME...


...!!

AT THIS RATE, RICHARD, I'LL. .

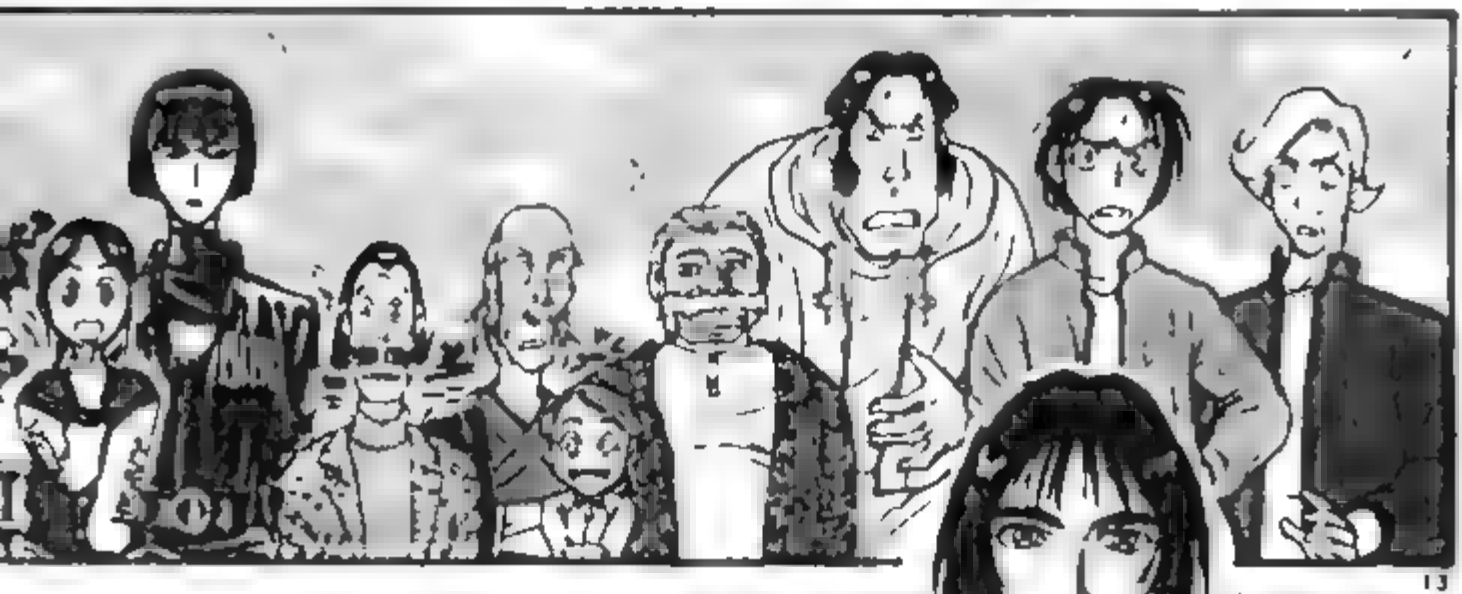

THANKS, RICHARD.
!

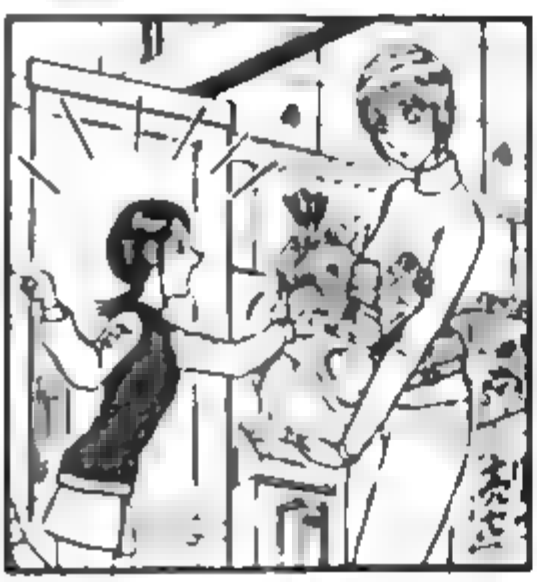

WE ARE STAYING AROUND NAGOYA NOW. COME VISIT IF YOU'D LIKE.. GOOD NIGHT..
WAIT, SHIROGANE! ANOTHER CIRCUS?!
BUT I'M ALREADY IN ANOTHER CIRCUS, SO..

I'LL ALWAYS BE WAITING FOR YOU!
SHI-ROGANE!

YOU DON'T NEED TO PROTECT ME ANYMORE.
I THINK THOSE ARE THE WORDS I WANTED TO HEAR!
ME?
HE NEEDS ME?
I RAN AWAY BUT ...
SAME FOR ME...
THERE WAS A HOLE IN MY CHEST.
LET'S GO BACK.
.....
WEAK...
IF I WAS TOLD THAT ONE MORE TIME ..
I THINK RICHARD...
TO THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS.
I'VE BECOME SO WEAK ...

ヒュウウ
THE NEXT DAY. NAGOYA SUBURBS.



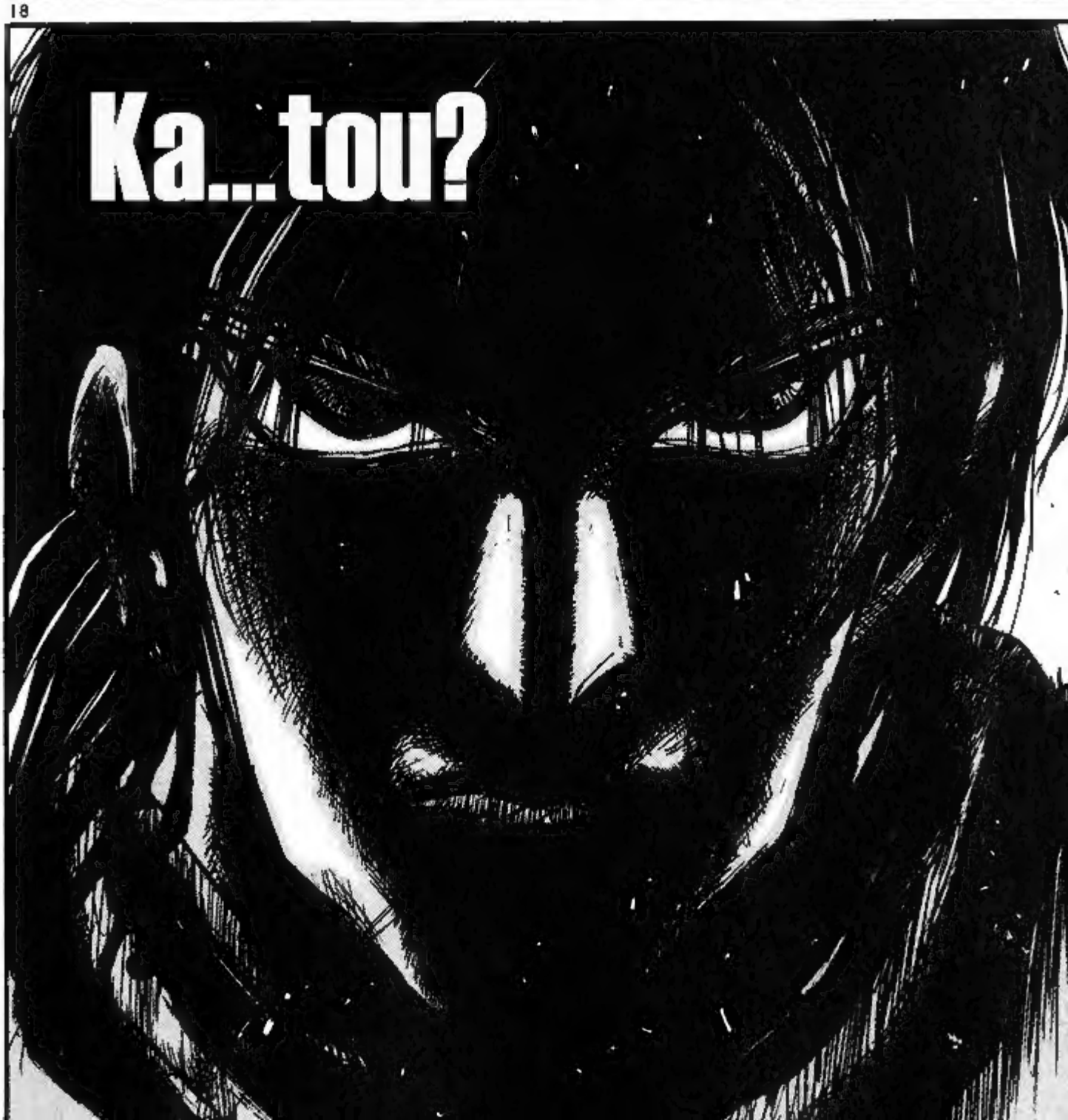


BUT I MADE A DECISION ALONG THE WAY..
WELL, I REALLY CAME.
I LOOKED FOR YOU.. YOU SAID SAID AROUND NAGOYA SO..

YESTERDAY WHEN YOU LEFT MY ROOM, AND EVEN NOW, YOU CAN'T LET GO OF THIS CIRCUS, RIGHT?
YOU WERE LONELY.. SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR A PLACE TO BE, ISN'T IT..?
AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

THAT MAKES THINGS FASTER. YOU SHOULD BRING THE WHOLE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS TO MY MEGARANICA.
...AND..?
YOU FOUND YOUR PLACE IN THIS SMALL CIRCUS WITHOUT ME KNOWING.

THE NAKAMACHI CIRCUS WOULD HAVE A BIG STAGE...
IF I ACCEPT RICHARD'S OFFER...
A... ALL THAT...
I LOVE YOU.
SHIROGANE, I REALLY NEED YOU!
THE HOLE IN HIS HEART...
CAN I REALLY... FILL IT...?
HE... NEEDS ME?
HE...


Ka...tou?

THANKS FOR READING
EXTRA NOTES
THIS WEEK WE'LL BE TAKING A BREAK TO GET SOME TRANSLATIONS DONE SO, SEE YOU NEXT MONDAY.
JUST KIDDING WE'LL RELEASE NORMALLY, SEE YOU TOMORROW.